

El Dorado American Legion Family
El Dorado Post 119
MONTHLY NEWSLETTER
FOR GOD, COUNTRY AND COMMUNITY
December 2017



Visit our Website at <http://www.legionpost119.org/>

For the December 2017 newsletter

Eight more memorial bricks have been made and are at the Post. The last names are: Dachtler, Raffety, Hofmeister, Castaneda, Kuehn, Thompson, Rodgers, and Mainwaring. Placement of the memorial bricks is a project of the Hangtown Voiture 1119, 40 & 8. The area to be used is next to the Gazebo. Presently there is a large boulder with a Plaque which is the start of the project. There are forms in the hall for ordering a brick on the table with the completed bricks. Bricks cost \$125. Give the completed forms to the Post Adjutant.

Post 119 Events through the year on the first Wednesday of the Month:

January: Social, Dinner and Membership meetings of the Post and Auxiliary Unit.

February: Social, Past Commander and Past Presidents Dinner and membership meetings.

March: Social, Peace Officer Night Dinner and Awards.

April: Social, Dinner and first nominations for Post and Auxiliary elected officers.

May: Social, Dinner and 2nd nominations followed by election of Post and Auxiliary elected officers.

June: Social, Dinner and Installation of Officers.

July: Social, Dinner and membership meetings of Post and Auxiliary Unit.

August: Social, Dinner and membership meetings of Post and Auxiliary Unit.

September: Social, Reports from Boys and Girls State representative's, dinner and membership meetings of Post and Auxiliary Unit.

October: Social and Dinner (sometimes a Salmon Dinner) and membership meetings of the Post and Auxiliary Unit.

November: Social and Buck Stew followed by membership meetings of the Post and Auxiliary Unit.

December: Social and Christmas Dinner. No membership meetings.

November – December 1917.

The 42nd (Rainbow) Division was activated in August 1917 and was assembled at Camp Mills in Long Island NY. Its four infantry regiments were respectively 165th (formerly New York's 69th); 166th (formerly Ohio's 4th); 167th (formerly Alabama's 4th); and 168th (formerly Iowa's 3rd). War strength of 27,000 was present when the Division paraded for Secretary of War Baker on September 26, 1917. The Division arrived in France in **November and December of 1917** and trained in Eastern France until mid-February 1918. (Info from the website www.rainbowvets.org).

The Daughters of the American Revolution will be handing out label pins for all Vietnam ERA Veterans' at the December General membership meeting. When it is announced all who served during the Vietnam ERA please come forward for your pin. The Daughters of the American Revolution is doing this across the country.

"Christmas is not a time nor a season, but a state of mind. To cherish peace and goodwill, to be plenteous in mercy, is to have the real spirit of **Christmas.**"

Service Officer Corner

One Morning.

Go to jail, 8 a.m., release time. All set for release of homeless Veteran. Tracey of Operation Good to Go will be there.

An overnighter comes out, and asks if he can use my phone. I ask if he is a Veteran. He is!

Heroin. No detox. Just overnight. Two deployments. Air Force.

I offer to take him to Mather ER. Detox. Residential program.

Not ready yet, but he takes my card. Tracey ends up taking him to where he is couch surfing. Thank you, Tracey.

Our county's number one arrestee comes out. OTH. We're working on having that reviewed to see if we can get him into residential. Meanwhile, the Sheriff's homeless outreach team has a belligerent drunk to deal with.

Finally, my guy comes out. His almost three month stay suited him. He looks great. He needs nothing for now. Family is there. Connected him to Kokopelli Ranch in south county and his significant other to Progress House and Military Family Support Group.
If they work with CPS, they have a chance.

Drove down to Cameron Park. Handed elderly Guardsman bus passes, courtesy of the EDVR Permanent Stand down. Got his phone bill to pay.

Contacted my favorite homeless Veteran in Cameron Park. Monday he moves into his first home in four years. Thank you Only Kindness and Sheriff's Homeless Outreach Team. He is worn out. Got him gas, and four nights in a motel, which takes him up to move in day. His first night in a motel, maybe ever. Per H.O.T. Team orders, set up getting his windshield fixed, and paid for. Thank you Rich, VFW 10165, and a SAL, for shopping, negotiating and arranging.

Veteran Numero Uno called. All wet from sleeping in his leaking truck. Got him two nights in motel. Thank you, Dana, of Only Kindness. Got him gas card and food card. Thank you, Julie, of MFSG.

Thanks to grants garnered by the Episcopal Church of Our Saviour which paid for all this.

Home by 11:30. Three and a half hours.

David Zelinsky
Service Officer
American Legion Post 119

Happy Hour at the Post

Don't forget Friday happy hour. Food by Leo and a nice adult beverage and the best part is spending some time with your Legion comrades. Pool table is available along with new pool cues. If the balls are not lost we have a net and paddles for the ping pong table. On occasions we are doing different things during happy hour. Since we have a nice projector we occasionally will watch a movie. We will be having bar games for drinks, 1 drink max per winning player. Come on out and have some fun and chat with other members.

Service Officer Corner Cont..

We have a sacred duty to house our homeless Veterans, but...

Statistics on the homeless are fraught with...

Well, when I started four years ago, we had no homeless Veterans, no incarcerated Veterans. Because no one was counting.

They are hard to count. One showed up with his foot swelling. There was no time to fill out the report that goes into the federal database. Straight to Mather ER.

It can be a lot like counting birds, I would guess.

It is a sacred duty to house our Veterans. Yet...

They have taught me that heaven is not a lock down facility. A lot of people will have this epitaph on their tombstone:

"I wasn't quite ready yet."

Monday I will haul a homeless Veteran to a shelter. They wanted him Thursday. Not his idea yet. He promised he'll go in Monday.

Wish him luck.

Gulf and Middle East war burn pits could be this generation's Agent Orange

The Department of Veteran Affairs (VA) estimates that hundreds of thousands of veterans who served in the Gulf War in the 1990s and most recently in the conflicts in the Middle East may have been exposed to a myriad of airborne chemicals and toxic substances because of burn pits. Burn pits were used to destroy and eliminate everything that was not needed during missions – including, but not limited to chemicals, toxic materials and unexploded enemy ordinance. This hastily means turned debris into a hazardous gas for everyone to breathe. The US Department of Veteran Services has 110,989 service men and women listed in its burn pit registry. Subsequently, a study by the VA Public Health Department acknowledges that some service men and women are experiencing many of the short-term burn pit health effects, including burning, dry or tearing eyes, nasal congestion, sneezing, sore throat and cough. Veterans with preexisting conditions, such as asthma (or a natural tendency of asthma) may experience chronic lung problems, allergies, or may have respiratory symptoms that last for a longer period because of the potential exposure. It took the military many years to codify the harmful and deadly effects of Agent Orange on Vietnam veterans. Because of this, the VA suggests that every Gulf War, Iraqi and Afghanistan veteran exposed to burn pits – especially those who experience lung, digestive and neurological issues – get an official diagnosis from their health care provider. If you need help filing a claim regarding exposure to burn pits or any other issue, please visit your Veteran Services office, as they are here to help.

The Veterans Crisis Line connects Veterans in crisis and their families and friends with qualified, caring Department of Veterans Affairs responders through a confidential toll-free hotline, online chat, or text. Veterans and their loved ones can call **1-800-273-8255 and Press 1**, chat online, or send a text message to 838255 to receive confidential support 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year. Support for deaf and hard of hearing individuals is available. <https://www.veteranscrisisline.net/>

Extending thankfulness and gratitude to all Veterans, Thanks to you and your families' for your sacrifice to our great Nation.

Happy Veterans Day!

George W. Smith

ALRDOC Service Officer

American Legion Auxiliary

American Legion Auxiliary

Hi Everyone,

At the November meeting we had the pleasure of two guests from District 7. Our District 7 President, Joanne Shope and Secretary, Julie Slater was there. It was great to have them contribute to our meeting.

Joanne informed us of the Presidents special project and asked for our full support for such a worthwhile project. The President is raising funds to purchase a very special service dog for very special Heroes, those suffering from extreme trauma. The project is "Paws for Purple Hearts". And as the name implies these dogs are specially trained for those that have given the extra measure. Please consider supporting this project.

I like to inform you again that District 7 is holding a meeting at our hall on March 3. The Auxiliary will be providing lunch on that day. If you wish to help out please call myself or my 1st Vice, Rebecca Marty at 530-677-4423. We could always use your help.

Joanne also informed us the next American Legion Auxiliary's convention will be held in Sacramento. This is a great opportunity to attend the convention right in our back yard. Everyone should experience it at least once. I will keep you informed on exactly when and where it will be held in an upcoming newsletter.

You still have time to contribute a Buddy Basket. Bring it to the December Dinner. I will be taking them to the VA hospital the second week of December.

I would like to see all of you at our meetings. If you can, please come. Even if you not able to volunteer I would still like to see you there.

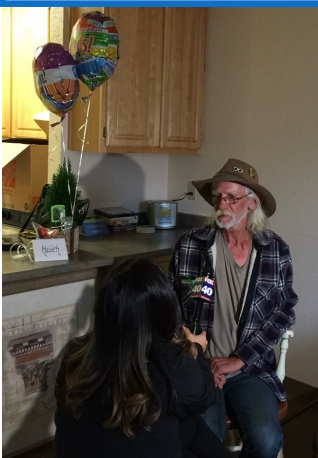
Please remember to bring your donations for our monthly raffle. Everyone is welcome to donate, members or not. Remember the raffle helps keep the Auxiliary afloat.

Thank you!

Janie Bandera, President

Cake List for December: Jackie Schmidt, Janie Bandera, Sue Coffey, Pat Nerwinski, Joy Krahn, Suzy Bergin, Carol Muller

Cake List for January: Rebecca Marty, RoseMary Lewis, Karen Dale, Betty Butcher, Joyce Reynolds, Janie Bandera



Military Family Support Group

Working in collaboration with EDSO HOT team and Only Kindness, the Military Family Support Group got this formerly homeless veteran all set up in his new home this past month! This story was shown on our local news, channel 3. Let's hear it for our El Dorado Veteran Resources office! — feeling happy.

God never gives someone a gift they are not capable of receiving. If he gives us the gift of Christmas, it is because we all have the ability to understand and receive it.
Pope Francis

'Twas the night before Christmas (Military version)

'Twas the night before Christmas, and all through the skies,
Air defenses were up, with electronic eyes.
Combat pilots were nestled in ready-room beds,
As enemy silhouettes danced in their heads.

Every jet on the apron, each SAM in its tube,
Was triply-redundant, linked to the Blue Cube,
And ELINT and AWACS gave coverage so dense
That nothing that flew could slip through our defense.

When out of the klaxon arose such a clatter
I dashed to the screen to see what was the matter;
I increased the gain and then, quick as a flash,
Fine-adjusted the filters to damp out the hash.

And there found the source of the warning we'd heeded:
An incoming blip, by eight escorts preceded.
"Alert status red!" went the word down the wire,
As we gave every system the codes that meant "FIRE!"

On Aegis! Up Patriot, Phalanx and Hawk!
And scramble our fighters--let's send the whole flock!
Launch decoys and missiles! Use chaff by the yard!
Get the kitchen sink up! Call the National Guard!

They turned toward the target, moved toward it, converged.
Till the tracks on the radar all finally merged,
And the sky was lit up with a demonic light,
As the foe met his fate in the high arctic night.

So we sent out some recon to look for debris,
Yet all that they found, both on land and on sea
Were some toys, a red hat, a charred left leather boot,
Broken sleigh bells, white hair, and a deer's parachute.

Now it isn't quite Christmas, with Saint Nick shot down.
There are unhappy kids in each village and town.
For the Spirit of Christmas can't hope to evade
All the web of defenses we've carefully made.

But a crash program's on: Working hard, night and day,
All the elves are constructing a radar-proof sleigh.
So let's wait for next Christmas, in cheer and in health,
For the future has hope: Santa's coming by stealth!

'Twas the Night Before Christmas For Bikers

'Twas the night before Christmas, and all through the
pad,
There was nada happenin', now thats pretty bad.
The woodstove was hung up in that stocking routine,
In hopes that the Fat Boy would soon make the scene.

With our stomachs packed with tacos and beer,
My girl and I crashed on the couch for some cheer.
When out in the yard there arose such a racket,
I ran for the door and pulled on my jacket.

I saw a large bro' on a '56 Pan
Wearin' black leathers, a cap, and boots (cool biker,
man).
He hauled up the bars on that bikeful of sacks,
And that Pan hit the roof like it was running on tracks.

I couldn't help gawking, the old guy had class.
But I had to go in -- I was freezing my ass.
Down through the stovepipe he fell with a crash,
And out of the stove he came dragging his stash.

With a smile and some glee he passed out the loot,
A new jacket for her and some parts for my scoot.
He patted her fanny and shook my right hand,
Spun on his heel and up the stovepipe he ran.

From up on the roof came a great deal of thunder,
As that massive V-twin ripped the silence asunder.
With beard in the wind, he roared off in the night,
Shouting, "Have a cool Yule, and to all a good ride!"

The Blessings of Peace
The Beauty of Hope
The Spirit of Love
The Comfort of Faith
May these be your gifts
this Christmas Season.



MERRY CHRISTMAS

Light a candle this Christmas in the
Lord's name. May his light always shine
upon you and your family.
Merry Christmas!

WishAFriend.com

A prayer for all the people
who are suffering
around the world

... sending light
and love...

-- Love --

American Legion El Dorado Family Leadership Team 2017-2018

Post 119 American Legion

Commander	Sam Bradley	(530) 306-1070
1st Vice	Joseph Rendon	(530) 672-1161
2nd Vice	Roger Reynolds	(530) 350-7740
Adjutant	Mike Muetz	(530) 626-3956
Finance	Mike Schiavone	(530) 409-2710
Sgt At Arms	Milt Bandera	(530) 677-4423
Past Commander	Edgar "Bud" Brown	(530) 677-4135
Chaplain	Robert Flowers	(530) 417-5802
Judge Advocate	James Campini	(530) 622-0751
Bar Manager	John Shetler	(530) 672-6805
Building Manager	Mike Muetz	(530) 919-7866
Veterans Service	David Zelinsky	(530) 919-8488
Membership	Joseph Rendon	(530) 672-1161
Historian	Mike Raffety	(530) 626-8020
Executive Bd.	Rich Bergin	(530) 409-8794
	Jim Campini	(530) 622-0751
	Chuck Impey	(530) 672-1338
	Danny Mainwaring	(530) 622-0486
	John Shetler	(530) 672-6805
	Tim Smith	(530) 622-0990

Unit 119 American Legion Auxiliary

President	Janie Bandera	(530) 677-4423
1 st Vice	Rebecca Marty	(530) 677-4423
2 nd Vice	Carol McLaughlin	(530)
Secretary	Suzy Bergin	(530) 644-7806
Treasurer	Karen Dale	(530)
Chaplain	Dolores Wadsworth	(530) 677-1255
Sgt At Arms	Joy Krahn	(530) 677-6356
Marshall	Joyce Reynolds	(530) 621-3953
Exe Committee	Judy Muetz	(530) 622-9133

Unit 119 Sons of the American Legion

Commander	Robert Flowers	(530) 417-5802
First Vice	?	(530)
Adjutant	David Zelinsky	(530) 919-8488
Treasurer	Rich Meagher	(530) 957-1069
Sgt at Arms	Mike Ross	(530)
Historian	Don Leddy	(530) 644-3581
Chaplain	Robert Flowers	(530) 417-5802

Chapter 119 American Legion Riders

President	Rich Bergin	(530) 409-8794
Vice President	Joe Rendon	(530) 672-1161
Secretary	Mike Muetz	(530) 622-1961
Treasurer	Jane Ferguson	(530) 409-7487
Sgt at Arms	Jim Maxey	(530) 622-1961
Membership	Janie Bandera	(530) 677-4423
Chaplain	Robert Flowers	(530) 417-5802
Run Coordin	Sam Ferguson	(530) 409-7489
Safety Officer	Curt Tate	(530) 677-8033
Web Master:	Rich Bergin	(530) 409-8794

December Birthdays

Richard Nesler	John Burke
Frank Krek	Ronald Schiller
Michael Donahe	John Shetler
Seth Reeb	Daniel Stein
James Logan	Wayne Trumbly
Thomas Kenny	Larry VanDerLinden
Charles Marotta	Samuel Kloczko
James McBride	James Davis
Sam Hieb	Neil Pfafman
Bob Miller	Lenny McAdams
Roger Reynolds	Peter Stoll
William Dinette Jr.	George Visman
William George	Neil Hart
James Hood	Glen Riggs
James Ramos Jr	David Becker
Dick Rome	Joseph Weber
Michael Walacavage	Richard Larsen
Thomas Dohnke	David Barnes
Douglas Strange	Anthony DeVille
Patrick Couch	William Dodd
Donald Burnett	Dick Edmonds
Gary Dobler	Floyd Hartsell
Stephen King	Karen Hoffmann



Dear Santa,

I already have everything I could possibly wish for this year. Got my family, good friends and LOVE. Please take care of those who need you. THANK YOU!! XX

Christmas is not a time nor a season, but a state of mind. To cherish peace and goodwill, to be plenteous in mercy, is to have the real spirit of Christmas.

Calvin Coolidge

December 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1 No Happy Hour	2
3	4 40&8 Voiture 5:30pm	5	6 Post 119 and Aux Holiday Dinner: 6:00Pm	7	8 No Happy Hour	9
10	11	12	13 SOAL - 5:30pm	14	15 No Happy Hour	16
17	18	19	20 Taco Night Bar Mtg: 5pm E-Board: 6pm	21	22 Happy Hour 5pm-9pm Chow by Leo	23
24	25	26	27	28	29 Happy Hour 5pm-9pm Chow by Leo	30/31

Calendar of Meetings

December 6: Social 6:00 pm
Dinner 6:45 pm

December 13:
Sons 5:45 pm

December 20:
Bar Meeting 5:00 pm
Exe Meeting 6:00 pm

All Legion Members welcome.

*Merry
Christmas*

*May your Christmas and
every day ahead
Sparkle with happiness
and new surprises!*



MEMBERS' SPOUSES ARE ALWAYS WELCOME AT OUR DINNERS ON MEETING NIGHT.



The worst gift is a fruitcake. There is only one fruitcake in the entire world, and people keep sending it to each other.

JOHNNY CARSON

Christmas is a season not only of rejoicing but of reflection. Winston Churchill

All meeting's at American Legion Post 119, 4561 Greenstone Road, Placerville, CA 95667

* Happy hour subject to prior rental.

THE AMERICAN LEGION
EL DORADO POST 119
P. O. BOX 421
PLACERVILLE, CALIFORNIA
95667

December 2017

PRSRT STD
Non-Profit
Organization
U. S. POSTAGE
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Placerville, CA
Permit No. 257



Welcome to
The American Legion
The World's Largest Veterans Organization

El Dorado Post 119

www.legionpost119.org

All Meetings At:
American Legion El Dorado Post 119
4561 Greenstone Rd, Placerville CA 95667
(530) 626-3956

Christmas is the spirit of giving without a thought of getting. It is happiness because we see joy in people. It is forgetting self and finding time for others. It is discarding the meaningless and stressing the true values.

Thomas S. Monson

Membership Dues New and Renewing Members

When you receive your renewal statement from National for American Legion Dues, please pay it through Post 119. If you make your payment this way, 15% of it will go to support our post. Your direct payment to our post benefits in two ways: first, you are making a 15% contribution; and second, you will not make the mistake of double payment. If you receive a second notice from National, check with our post first. The 1st Vice has information on when your membership expires,

Dues for 2018 is \$45.00. The increase put in place last year was due to a per capita expense increase to the State American Legion. Joe Rendon 1st Vice

I don't want much for Christmas.
I just want the person reading this
to be healthy, happy and loved!

